

**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q77927

Toru MATAMA

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned  
(*Continuation of 09/276,759, filed March 26, 1999*)

Group Art Unit: 2615 (Parent)

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Nhan T. Tran (Parent)

Filed: October 8, 2003

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

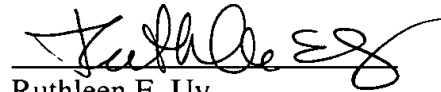
In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form which are all the references of record in parent application No. 09/276,759. Applicant is not submitting duplicate copies of these references but requests that they be listed on the face of any patent granted on the above application. (See 37 CFR §1.98(d)). Copies of any cited copending applications, if not previously submitted, are being submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: Q77927  
CONTINUATION OF U.S. APPLICATION NO. 09/276,759

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any  
listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 8, 2003

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|---|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | <i>Complete if Known</i> |                                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                    |   |    |   | Application Number       | Not Yet Assigned<br><i>(Continuation of Serial No. 09/276,759)</i> |
|                                                                                                                                                    |   |    |   | Confirmation Number      | Not Yet Assigned                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                    |   |    |   | Filing Date              | October 8, 2003                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                    |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Toru MATAMA                                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                    |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 2615 (parent)                                                      |
|                                                                                                                                                    |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | Nhan T. Tran (parent)                                              |
| Sheet                                                                                                                                              | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | Q77927                                                             |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                 |                                             |                                |                                                 |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number |                                             | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
|                       |                          | Number          | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br><i>(if known)</i> |                                |                                                 |
|                       |                          | US 5,828,793    |                                             | 10-27-1998                     | MANN                                            |
|                       |                          | US 5,264,944    |                                             | 11-23-1993                     | TAKEMURA                                        |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                              |                     |                                             |                                |                                                    |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document      |                     |                                             | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country<br>Code <sup>3</sup> | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br><i>(if known)</i> |                                |                                                    |                          |
|                          |                          | JP                           | 7-131704            |                                             | 05-19-1995                     | Canon, Inc.                                        |                          |
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| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                          |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*           | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
|                                 |                          | Notification of reasons for Refusal, Dispatch No. 051496, 02/18/2003                                                                                                                                                                                             |                          |
|                                 |                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                          |
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|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.